

REMARKS

Claims 1-23 are pending in this application. Claims 12 and 13 are withdrawn. By this amendment, claims 1, 8, 11, 14 and 19-23 are amended. No new matter is added by this Amendment. Support for the amendments to the claims may be found at least at page 19, lines 11-14, page 20, lines 17-19 and page 21, lines 15-19 of the specification, and at, for example, Figs. 3 and 6.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

I. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and §103(a)

Claims 1-11, 14-17 and 19-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Garbuzov et al., *High-external-quantum-efficiency organic light-emitting devices*, 15 March 1997, OPTICS LETTERS, Vol. 22, No. 6 (hereinafter "Garbuzov"); and claim 18 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Garbuzov in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0093283 (hereinafter "Seo"). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Each of independent claims 1, 8, 11, 14 and 19-23 recite "a light-emitting layer that is disposed between electrodes..., one of the electrodes being deposited on a surface of the substrate..., **the protective layer being deposited on another one of the electrodes on an opposite side**, as viewed from the light-emitting layer" (emphasis added). Garbuzov fails to teach or disclose at least this feature.

The Office Action asserts that "planarization" of Garbuzov corresponds to the protective layer of the presently claimed invention. However, even if the planarization of Garbuzov could somehow be construed to be the protective layer, Garbuzov fails teach or disclose the feature of **the protective layer being deposited on another one of the electrodes on an opposite side**, as viewed from light-emitting layer, **to the substrate**.

Therefore, Garbuzov fails to anticipate each and every feature of at least the independent claims.

Seo also fails to disclose the feature of a light-emitting layer that is disposed between electrodes and that emits light upon applying a voltage between the electrodes, **one of the electrodes being deposited on a surface of the substrate, and a protective layer that covers an emitting side of the light-emitting layer**, forms an interface between the protective layer and an external medium, and **has a thickness that allows light emitted from the light-emitting layer to undergo total reflection at least once at the interface in an area of the light-emitting layer**. Furthermore, according to Seo, as disclosed in paragraphs [0125], [0126] and [0127], the substrate can transmit visible light, and depicts a portion 811, which is a region for displaying an image, is provided on the substrate 801. Therefore, Seo fails to cure the deficiencies of Garbuzov. Furthermore, even if the references could be combined as suggested, the presently claimed features would still not be achieved.

As discussed above, the above noted features are not disclosed by Garbuzov and Seo in any combination. However, Garbuzov and Seo, in any combination, also fail to disclose a reflective layer that is disposed on an opposite side, as viewed from the light-emitting layer, to the protective layer, and an angle changer that is disposed at a periphery of the light-emitting layer, and **changes a direction of the light emitted from the light-emitting layer and propagating in the protective layer so that the light is incident on the interface at less than a critical angle**, as recited in claim 1. Support for these features is found at least at Figs. 3 and 6, and at page 21, lines 15-19 of the specification.

The Office Action asserts that "metal" of Garbuzov corresponds to the reflective layer in the presently claimed invention, and that the inclined surface of mesa corresponds to an angle changer in the presently claimed invention. However, Garbuzov, as shown in the inset

of Fig. 4, discloses light emitted from the light-emitting layer (organic layers) that does not propagate in the protective layer (planarization).

Therefore, even if the "metal" is construed to correspond to the reflective layer, and even if the inclined surface is regarded as the angle changer, Garbuzov still fails to disclose the feature of a **reflective layer (metal)** that is **disposed on an opposite side**, as viewed from the light-emitting layer (organic layers), **to the protective layer (planarization)**, and **an angle changer (inclined surface) changes the direction of the light emitted from the light-emitted layer (organic layers) and propagating in the protective layer (planarization) so that the light is incident on the interface at less than a critical angle**. Accordingly, Garbuzov fails to anticipate the subject matter of independent claims 1, 8, 11 and 21.

Claims 2-7 depend from claim 1, claims 9 and 10 depend from claim 8, and claims 15-18 depend from claim 14. Accordingly, dependent claims 2-7, 9, 10 and 15-18 are allowable at least for the same reasons as the independent claims from which they depend, as well as for the additional features they recite.

Withdrawal of the rejections is requested.

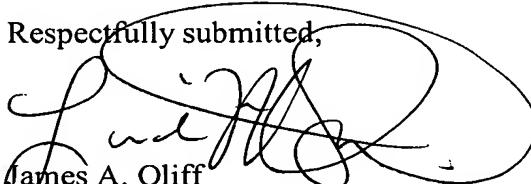
II. Rejoinder

Withdrawn claims 12 and 13 are method claims that depend from elected claim 1. Thus, upon allowance of claim 1, rejoinder and allowance of claims 12 and 13 is respectfully requested. See MPEP §821.04.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment:
Petition for Extension of Time

Date: June 13, 2008

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